

State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council

Minutes for Conference Call

Sunday, February 23, 2014

8:00pm – 9:00 pm - All Members – Statewide

Dial: 1 (866) 685-1580

Conference Code: 51 52 81 65 09 #

Members Present: Rohan Aggarwal, Joel Baumann, Nick Beckwith, Jacob Bundt, Anne Edwards, Agatha Fenech, Pablo Haake, Rekha Karuparth, Mary Korch, Jake Mathahs, Jenna McCoy, Katie Melbourne, Gina Mostafa, Sruthi Palaniappan, Danielle Reyes, Luke Theuma, Benjamin Votroubek, and Cody Woodruff

Members Absent: Sai Abbaraju and Danielle Reyes

Staff Present: Betsy Penisten and Steve Michael

I. Roll Call and Announcements

Karuparth took roll call.

II. Approve Minutes from February 9, 2014

Woodruff moved to approve the February 9, 2014 minutes with the correction of February 9 to 6th. Votroubek seconded. The council unanimously agreed to approve the corrected February 9, 2014 minutes.

III. Cyberbullying Discussion

There is a senate and house bill of the Governor's bill. It is currently in the house. Theuma told SIYAC that the position statement will be fixed accordingly. Theuma believes we should lobby the entire house because if it passes in the house, the senate will definitely pass in the senate. Woodruff summarized by stating that there are two versions of the bill: one for the house and one for the senate. Woodruff hopes that next year we could put the amended version of the bill in debate, however as long as something is passed in both parties would be beneficial. Woodruff also spoke with Lieutenant Governor Reynolds and Governor Branstad. Woodruff told Governor Branstad that SIYAC would like the word "cyberbullying" mentioned in the bill. The Governor told Cody that this amendment would be done.

Theuma moved to support the Bully Free Iowa Act proposed by the Governor. Woodruff seconded.

Haake went through the bill. Many SIYAC members support the Governor's bill, but would like to include our suggestions in the position statement.

Theuma moved to amend the position statement to add the word “cyberbullying” and to add more details about the financial issues. Beckwith seconded. There were 3 nays, 1 abstain, and 11 ayes. The council moves to amend the position statement.

Theuma moved to have general support for the Bully Free Iowa Act proposed by the Governor and to approve the amended position statement. Woodruff seconded. The council unanimously agreed to support the Bully Free Iowa Act and to amend the position statement.

IV.E-Cigarette Discussion

Mostafa discussed the e-cigarette legislation proposed by AMP. She informed the council how there are no regulations concerning e-cigarettes. Even though the long-term effects are not as bad as actual smoking, it is still dangerous. Nicotine and carcinogens are present in the e-cigarettes, causing some addictive effects. Many youth are starting to use e-cigarettes, and 95% of people use e-cigarettes compared to actual cigarettes. SIYAC decided that the health committee should look into this issue and decide if they want to go forward with it.

V. Recruitment Ideas/Updates

Woodruff went to the Capitol on Monday, and WHO interviewed him, which should be aired next week. This gave SIYAC great media attention. Woodruff has also been recruiting within his own school by talking with his school to take a couple of people to the Capitol. He has had great responses so far. \

Woodruff moved to extend the conference call to 9:20 pm. Korch seconded. The council unanimously agreed to extend the conference call to 9:20 pm.

VI.Committee/Bill Updates

Tanning Bill: Melbourne attended Melanoma Day on the 19th. She got to attend the Subcommittee meeting and got to talk at the meeting. It passed the Senate floor 8-5. Many Republicans said no to the bill by arguing that teenagers can do what they want. Melbourne will be contacting the house in these next couple of weeks.

Breakfast Campaign: Mostafa held a meeting on February 10th, 2014 with University of Iowa and her school’s nutritionist. The meeting went well. For the next steps, her and her classmates have to find out why people do not like to eat breakfast and survey fellow peers.

Suicide Training: Baumann discussed how the Governor's bill does cover something about suicide training. Abbaraju talked to Senator Peterson and it is currently out of subcommittee.

Standardized Testing: The bill died in subcommittee.

Foreign Language: This bill also died. Haake called Representative Salmon and she said that the funding and timing were a problem and is not an important factor to focus on at the moment.

Korch moved to extend the conference call to 9:25 pm. Woodruff seconded. The council unanimously agreed to extend the conference call to 9:25 pm.

VII. Officer Updates

Service: Global Youth Service Day is coming up and Korch will be holding a conference call at 8 pm this Tuesday.

Public Relations: Fenech is editing the recruitment video. She is also making a list of the different schools and stations to send this video out to.

Legislative Affairs: Mathahs ensured the council that a lot of good came out of these bills even though some of them did not make it to the floor. For now, SIYAC should focus on the Tan Ban Bill and getting the senators on our side for the bill. Mathahs will be sending out e-mails to his committee about contacting people. Also, the suicide prevention bill is still promising.

VIII. Other Business/Public Comments

Penisten will start a doodle calendar for the fourth quarterly meeting. On Tuesday, Team Nutrition is having a forum in Cedar Rapids.

IX. Meeting Adjourns

Korch moved to adjourn the meeting. Votroubek seconded. The council unanimously agreed to adjourn.